

Border Eagle

Laughlin Air Force Base, Texas ... Together we 'XL'



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the inside scoop

Effective leadership:

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Beat the heat:

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Top dog:

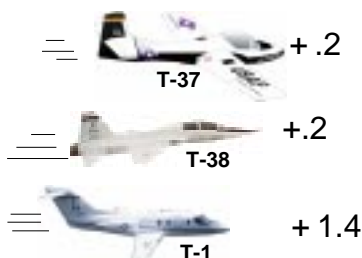
47 SFS staff sergeant and military working dog team up, win medals in K-9 competition at Texas Police Olympics...

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Mission status

(As of June 20)

Days ahead(+) or behind(-)



Fiscal Year 2000 statistics

--Sorties flown: 47,599
--Hours flown: 70,575.1
--Pilot wings earned in FY 00: 226
--Wings earned since 1963: 11,591

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Veterans of Korean War remembered during 50th anniversary

By Airman 1st Class
Brad Pettit

Staff writer

Though it is commonly known as "The Forgotten War," veterans of the Korean conflict will be remembered today in a 5 p.m. ceremony at the wing headquarters building as Laughlin commemorates the 50th anniversary of one of the bloodiest wars in the nation's history.

Of the 1,789,000 Americans who served in the war, 36,516

died; 103,284 were wounded; 7,245 were taken as prisoners of war and 8,176 are still missing in action. Despite the high number of those who served and died during the conflict, details of the war may remain sketchy in the minds of many Americans.

The United States entered the conflict a mere five years following the end of World War II. Although the U.S. was war-weary, it quickly found itself involved in another major international conflict.

The U.S. became involved in the war following a June 25, 1950 attack on South Korea by the communist government of North Korea. Determined to support the world's imperiled democracies, the U.S. immediately led a United Nations force to Korea on what was supposed to be a short, decisive repelling of the enemy. However, it became a prolonged, frustrating fight that threatened to reach out beyond Korean borders.

Fighting raged for three long years until peace finally returned to the region with a settlement re-establishing the earlier boundary between the North and

"They went not for conquest and not for gain, but only to protect the anguished and the innocent. They suffered greatly – and by their heroism in a thousand forgotten battles they added a luster to the codes we hold most dear: duty, honor, country, fidelity, bravery and integrity."

-William Sessions

Former FBI director and veteran of the Korean War

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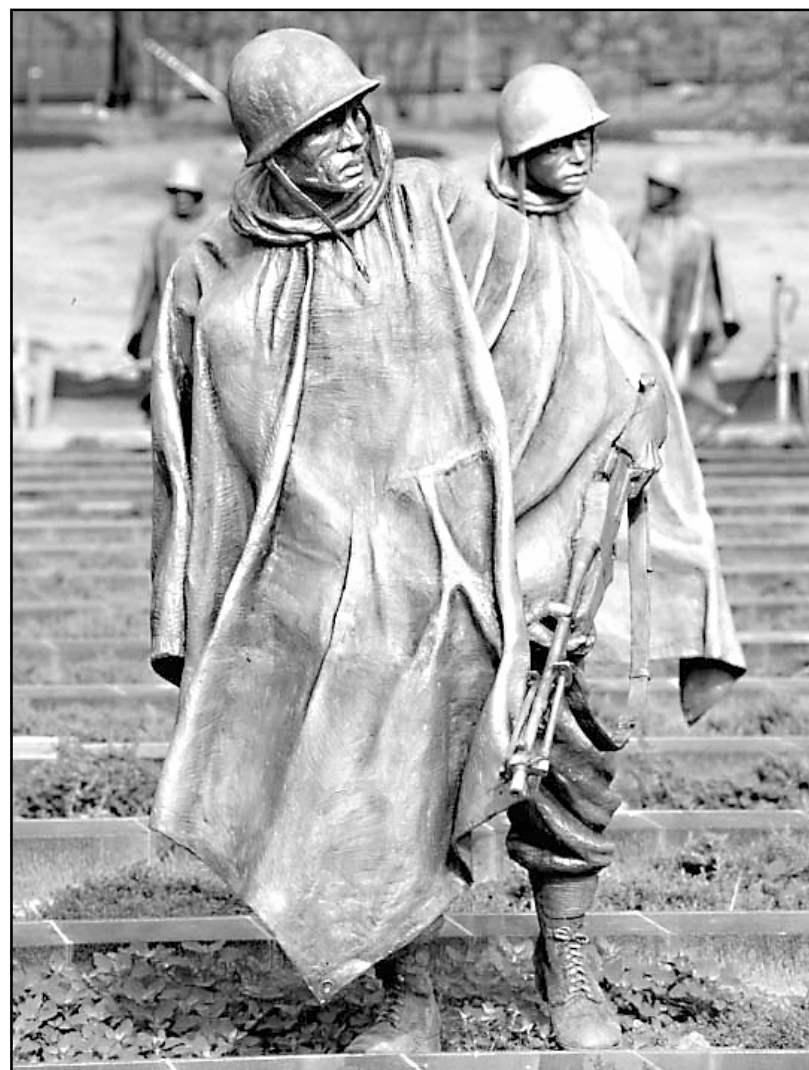


Photo by Staff Sgt. Chris U. Putman

(Above) Soldiers come out of the woods into an opening while on foot patrol. The statues are part of the Korean War Memorial located in Washington, D.C. The memorial is located across the reflective pool from the Vietnam Veterans Memorial. (Below) Soldiers of the Korean War pose for a photo.



Effective leadership in today's Air Force: *Learning to be a leader that troops will want to follow*

By Lt. Col. David Boyer
Air Force Space Command

The Air Force is changing. Deployments are frequent, workloads are heavy and many have been experiencing the effects. These problems aren't due to world tensions or personal problems at home. They're occurring in work centers across the Air Force right now. Retention and recruitment are growing challenges. There are funding issues that need to be solved. Why is this happening?

The responsibilities of the armed forces have been shifting from "warfighter" to "peacekeeper." Since the end of the Cold War, national policies and strategies have been changing as well. These factors have created an identity crisis within the services.

How will we handle these changes? Senior leadership is working on solutions, but today's changes are so sweeping, it's going to take time for the military to adapt to everything that's happening.

So as leaders in the wing, groups and squadrons, we must come up with flexible plans that clear a path to the Air Force of the future.

This brings me to the question: Where

do we start? Leaders have to provide a vision of what their organizations have to do. This vision has to be communicated to the troops. The troops will be the ones to make the vision a reality. But keep in mind, even the hardest working people have their limitations. Leaders have to be realistic. Things take time, skills and resources that may not be readily available. People also need time to adapt to new ideas and ways of doing things. If you don't allow for these factors, your people will have difficulties and your vision may fail. Plan one step at a time within the constraints you have. Set realistic goals, and celebrate when you meet them.

But having a vision doesn't mean you can step back and let others make it happen. You must nurture your subordinates. There's nothing more satisfying than praise from the boss. But that

doesn't mean it should be overdone. If everything is praised, the value of praise is lost. Also, while individual recognition is important, so is recognizing how people work together as a team. Everyone working together gets the job done not just individuals.

"Leaders should take responsibility for the risks associated with their decisions and recognize their people when things go well. When things turn out great, give credit where it's due – to your people. If things fail, accept the blame. It's the price you pay for being the boss. If you don't, who will want to follow you."

Aside from praising your people, there's another leadership technique that can help get the job done and make life easier. It's called courtesy. Although military leaders have the power to order their troops, it's a good idea to be considerate. A little bit of kindness goes a long way when you're asking someone to do a difficult or unpleasant

task. Just adding "please" when you request something and "thank you" when the job is done can let them know you appreciate their hard work and help make that person's day a little brighter. In

these times of uncertainty, respect for each other is a must.

Leaders should take responsibility for the risks associated with their decisions and recognize their people when things go well. When things turn out great, give credit where it's due – to your people. If things fail, accept the blame. It's the price you pay for being the boss. If you don't, who will want to follow you?

Finally, leaders should trust their people. Air Force people know their jobs better than anyone does.

I've found that more often than not, if you put your trust in your people and empower them to get the job done, they'll almost always exceed your expectations. Leading is difficult, especially during changes, but keeping these things in mind makes it a little easier: Reality affects how we do our jobs. Praise and courtesy can go a long way to getting the job done better.

Leaders must accept responsibility for their decisions and trust their people to get the job done. Only when working as a team that will we get through the rough times and see the results of our hard work – a new and improved Air Force.

(Courtesy Air Force News Service)

South Texas Blood and Tissue Center thanks Laughlin

One out of every 20 Texans will need blood in his or her lifetime. During the past 6 months, blood usage has risen more dramatically in south Texas than in most parts of the country. Blood is needed during the summer months when there tends to be a low rate of donations with a high rate of elective surgeries. Blood is an essential element in the treatment of cancer, surgical procedures, transplants and recovery of trauma victims.

Considering these facts, the South Texas Blood and Tissue Center would like to extend its sincere appreciation to all of the people that gave "the gift of life" at the

Laughlin Blood Drive June 2.

The Laughlin and Del Rio communities donated a total of 60 pints of blood! These units will help up to 240 south Texas hospital patients. This was a record high for donors at Laughlin since 1997.

Thanks for your time and patience to all that attended the blood drive. Due to the overwhelming response there were long waits. Everyone's patience and time was greatly appreciated by many patients throughout the south Texas community.

In addition, we would also like to extend a special

thanks to Sabrina Pena, family life educator at Laughlin, for her efforts to make this a successful blood drive.

Anyone 17 years or older, who weighs at least 110 pounds, and is in good general health may donate blood. Proper identification is required before donating.

We hope to have an even better response at our next blood drive that will be held July 28. We will be better prepared by sending more staff and more beds.

For more information on the upcoming blood drive, call Sabrina at (830) 298-5327.

(Courtesy South Texas Blood and Tissue Center)

Driving safety tips:

- Have your car safety checked.
- Know your limitations.
- Get plenty of rest before starting on any trip.
- Give yourself adequate time. Plan for the trip accordingly.
- Use your defensive driving skills – look for others.
- Use your seatbelts and proper child restraints at all times.

Actionline

Call 298-5351

This column is one way to work through problems that haven't been solved through normal channels. By leaving your name and phone number, you are assured of a timely personal reply. It's also very useful in case more information is needed in order to pursue your inquiry. If you give your name, we will make every attempt to ensure confidentiality when appropriate.

If your question relates to the general interest of the people of Laughlin, the question and answer may also

be printed in the *Border Eagle*. Before you call the Actionline, please try to work the problem out through the normal chain of command or directly with the base agency involved.

Thanks for your cooperation and I look forward to reading some quality ideas and suggestions.



Winfield W. Scott III

Col. Winfield W. Scott III
47th Flying Training Wing commander

Air Force names Outstanding Airmen of the Year

RANDOLPH AIR FORCE BASE, TEXAS—

The Air Force has selected the service's top enlisted members, naming the 12 Outstanding Airmen of the Year for 2000.

Forty-eight nominees representing major commands, direct reporting units and air staff agencies were considered this year.

These nominees are authorized to wear the Outstanding Airman of the Year ribbon while the 12 selectees will wear the bronze service star device on the ribbon. The selectees will also wear the Outstanding Airman badge for one year from the date of formal presentation.

The selectees will be honored during the Air Force Association National Convention set for September in Washington, D.C., and will serve as members of the AFA's Enlisted Advisory Council.

The winners are:

Senior Master Sgt. Tim C. Bosch, 15th Civil Engineer Squadron, *Pacific Air Forces, Hickam AFB, Hawaii.*

Senior Master Sgt. Cathryn L. Casto, 347th Supply Squadron, *Air Combat Command, Moody AFB, Ga.*

Senior Airman Cyril R. Charity Sr., 113th Security Forces Squadron, *Air National Guard, Andrews AFB, Md.*

Senior Master Sgt. Daniel F.

Cooler, 32nd Intelligence Squadron, *Air Intelligence Agency, Ft. George Meade, Md.*

Master Sgt. Rocky D. Dunlap, 62nd Civil Engineer Squadron, *Air Mobility Command, McChord AFB, Wash.*

Senior Airman John M. Jordan, 321st Special Tactics Squadron, *Air Force Special Operations Command, Royal Air Force Mildenhall, United Kingdom.*

Tech. Sgt. Matthew M. Marshall, 52nd Supply Squadron, *U.S. Air Forces in Europe, Spangdahlem Air Base, Germany.*

Staff Sgt. Susan A. Robinson, San Antonio Air Logistics Center, *Air Force*

Materiel Command, Kelly AFB, Texas.

Master Sgt. Paul S. N. Sanchez, Air Force Pentagon Communications Agency, *Headquarters U.S. Air Force, Washington, D.C.*

Senior Airman Michael M. Solyom, 17th Training Support Squadron, *Air Education and Training Command, Goodfellow AFB, Texas.*

Staff Sgt. Tammy M. Stiles, 60th Medical Operations Squadron, *AMC, Travis AFB, Calif.*

Staff Sgt. Jasmin D. Wiltshire, 45th Aeromedical-Dental Squadron, *Air Force Space Command, Patrick AFB, Fla.*

(Courtesy AFPN)

Officials attempt to reduce overall alcohol use among servicemembers

By Staff Sgt.
Kathleen T. Rhem

American Forces Press Service

Twenty-one percent of service members admit to drinking heavily – a statistic the military hasn't managed to lower in 20 years – but service officials are determined to change that.

"If you look at heavy use of alcohol, drinking a lot in a short span of time, we tend to have a higher prevalence than the civilian community," said Lt. Col. Wayne Talcott, an Air Force psychologist. Young military people between 18 and 25 also tend to do more heavy drinking than their civilian peers, he noted.

Speaking in terms of medical care and lost time at work, alcohol abuse costs DoD more than \$600 million each year, said Navy Capt. Robert Murphy, a medical corps officer. DoD spends another \$132 million a year to care for babies with

fetal alcohol syndrome – sometimes-serious health problems related to their mothers' heavy drinking.

Talcott and Murphy co-chair the relatively new DoD Alcohol Abuse and Tobacco Use Reduction Committee. Their goal is to reduce the prevalence of heavy drinking within the military by 5 percent a year by changing DoD officials' focus on alcohol abuse from treatment to prevention.

"We have very good treatment programs, but they're very expensive and don't reach a lot of people," Murphy said. "We're focusing on prevention. We're certainly not opposed to alcohol use, but we are trying to reduce the prevalence of alcohol abuse."

"We're trying to prevent people from having to see a specialist," Talcott said. "If you want to decrease prevalence, you need to have policies and programs in place across the spectrum to discourage heavy drinking."

See 'Alcohol' page 5

"We have very good treatment programs, but they're very expensive and don't reach a lot of people. We're focusing on prevention. We're certainly not opposed to alcohol use, but we are trying to reduce the prevalence of alcohol abuse."

-Capt. Robert Murphy
Navy medical corps

Airman pleads guilty at court-martial here

By Capt. Lucy Carrillo

47 FTW law office – chief, adverse actions

An airman assigned to the 47th Mission Support Squadron here pled guilty June 16 to one charge of violating Article 134 of the Uniform Code of Military Justice in a special court-martial.

A military judge found the airman guilty of writing worthless checks by dishonorably failing to maintain funds and sentenced her to a bad conduct discharge, two weeks of confinement, two months of hard labor without confinement and reduction to airman basic.

The airman was charged with writing 15 bad checks, all written from December 1999 through March 2000. All 15 checks were written on a checking account she maintained at USAA Federal Savings Bank, and were cashed at the Del Rio National Bank branch adjacent

to the Army and Air Force Exchange Service base exchange here. The airman never put money into her USAA bank accounts to cover any of the checks. The amount of money that she wrote checks for and received cash for totaled \$3,935 - \$2,600 of which she received after January 2000, when USAA Federal Savings Bank had already closed her checking account. She admitted to the military judge that she had never kept track of her checkbook, even though this was not the first checking account she'd had.

After announcement of the sentence, the airman was escorted to Lackland Air Force Base, Texas to begin serving the two weeks of confinement. Unless waived, her case will be reviewed automatically by the Air Force Court of Criminal Appeals in Washington, D.C.

Col. Winfield W. Scott III
Commander
1st Lt. Angela O'Connell
Public affairs officer
Senior Airman Michael Hammond
Editor
Airman 1st Class Brad Pettit
Staff writer

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"Excellence – not our goal, but our standard."

– 47 FTW motto

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Deadlines, Advertising

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Submissions can be E-mailed to: **michael.hammond@laughlin.af.mil** or **reginal.woodruff@laughlin.af.mil**

The *XLer*

Hometown: Everett, Pa.
Family: Husband, Tony; daughters, Becky, 14, Ashlee, 6; sons, Jarrod, 10, Samuel, 8.
Time at Laughlin: 4 years.
Time in service: 12 years.
Why did you join the Air Force family? To get a better education and see the world.
Long-term goals: Retire as a senior master sergeant with a bachelor's degree.
Greatest accomplishment: Joining the Air Force.
Bad Habit: Procrastinating.
Hobbies: Bowling, softball and actively supporting my children's hobbies.
Name one way to improve life at Laughlin: Have more basewide activities to improve social interaction among the different groups.
If you could spend one hour with any person in history, who would it be and why? Florence Nightingale – one of my goals in life since I've been a little girl is to take care of the sick, injured or ill.



Photo by Trina Ezernack

Staff Sgt. Malynda Emerson
47th Medical Group

Where are they now?

Name: Capt. Ian D. Phillips.
Class/Date of graduation from Laughlin: Class 96-01, Oct. 95.
Aircraft you now fly and base you are stationed at: F-16CJ, Shaw AFB.
Mission of your aircraft? Force Protection.
What do you like most about your current aircraft? Single seat.
What do you dislike most about your current aircraft? It doesn't have an IFF interrogator.
What was the most important thing you learned at Laughlin besides learning to fly? FAIP's shouldn't stay assigned at a UPT base more than two years.
What is your most memorable experience from Laughlin? First solo in a T-37.
What advice would you give SUPT students at Laughlin? Your Air Force destiny is basically decided in T-37's. Give it everything you have.



U.S. Air Force photo of a F-16

‘War’ from page 1

South. This anticlimax led to the name, “The Forgotten War.” However, the war hasn’t been forgotten by (Ret.) Col. Donald S. Robb, B-29 radar operator who ran bombing missions during the Korean War. Robb served 268 hours total combat time aboard the B-29 during the conflict. This year, he has been awarded the Korean Service Medal by the Republic of Korea. According to William Sessions, Korean War veteran and former director of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, those who served in the conflict were among the hardest-fighting and bravest of any who served in other wars and battles. “They went not for conquest and not for gain, but only to protect the anguished and the innocent. They suffered greatly –and by their heroism in a thousand forgotten battles they added a luster to the codes we hold most dear: duty, honor, country, fidelity, bravery and integrity.” On the 50th anniversary of the beginning of the “Forgotten War,” it seems that struggle in Korea is far from being forgotten – and that the veterans who fought and died in the conflict will always have a place in the memories of those who benefited from their sacrifice – Americans.

Laughlin promotes precious metals recovery

The Precious Metals Recovery Program is alive and well at Laughlin. The PMRP promotes the economic recovery of precious metals from excess and surplus items bearing precious metals. Recovered precious metals play an important part in saving money for the taxpayer and the government, conserves natural resources by recycling and reusing precious metals and reduces the impact on the environment of having to mine for precious metals. Every person assigned to, and working on base, must do his or her part to ensure the recovery and subsequent turning-in of items bearing precious metals. Items requiring precious metals recovery are assigned a precious metals indicator code. These items can contain such precious metals as silver, gold and platinum metals. PMI’s and

their definitions are listed in AFMAN 23-110, volume 6, chapter 4, figure 4.2. The question most often asked is “What are the sources of these precious metals?” Gold is found in badges, insignias, anodes, turnings, buttons, eyeglass frames, powders, salts, foils, pellets, dental lingual bars, goldware, dental castings and brazing alloys. Silver is found in cell batteries, tableware buttons, desalter kits, anodes, wire solution, file and dental scrap. Platinum family metals are found in aircraft spark plugs, magneto and relay contact points, detonator fuses, anodes, cathodes, crucibles, foil, resistor furnace coils, thermocouple wires, dental alloys, jewelry, laboratory ware and wire. As you can see, the sources of items bearing precious metals are many.

At present, base activities participating in the PMRP include the 47th Medical Group dental clinic and radiology clinics, aircraft maintenance, Nondestructive Inspection Lab, Engine Regional Repair Center, Component Repair Flight, T-37 and T-38 maintenance and the 47th Communications Squadron. These squadrons are doing an outstanding job of ensuring the recovery and subsequent turning-in of items bearing precious metals is accomplished. The newly revised 47 FTWI 25-101, dated April 12, includes the requirement that all bench stock activities with items assigned a PMI code will participate in the PMRP. If your organization falls into this category, or if you have any questions concerning the program, call Claudio Sotelo, Sr. or Sherrie Vick at 5148 or 5096. (Courtesy 47th Support Group)

‘Alcohol’ from page 3

As some colleges do with their students, Talcott said, the committee wants to help servicemembers understand the liabilities associated with heavy drinking. “We want to help them understand if you drink this much and you drive you’re going to be under the influence, or at this level you’re impaired,” he said. The committee also aims to better track alcohol-related adverse events, such as incidences of driving under the influence, suicides, crimes and domestic violence, Murphy said. He explained there’s no centralized DoD tracking system, though the services collect data that can be collated into DoD-wide figures. Thirty-one percent of all occupational injuries are alcohol-related, as are 23 percent of suicides and 32 percent of homicides. Talcott said senior officials have likened DoD’s new approach to preventive maintenance. “You maintain a jet engine so it doesn’t fall out of the sky,” he said. “We need to begin to look at where there are risks to the human weapon system and how we can build a system that protects our people.” This is very different from previous approaches, he said. “You typically have program offices that largely are designed to treat people with alcohol problems,” Talcott explained. “Rather than waiting for people to develop severe problems, we want to build into the

system ways to get the right messages to help our young people make better decisions about their drinking behavior. It’s not the use, it’s abuse that gets people in trouble,” he said.

With hot summer days on the way, it is important to **take action to beat heat stress**

The sun and heat can cause heat-related illnesses if you are not protected. Some examples are sunburn, heat rash, heat exhaustion, heat cramps and heat stroke.

Sunburns form very rapidly. Wear a wide-brimmed hat to keep your head and face cool. This will provide protection from sun exposure. Keep your sleeves rolled down. Applying sunblock with an SPF factor of 15 or above will also help to minimize the chances of sunburn.

Heat rash, also known as “prickly heat,” can keep your body from releasing heat. Heat rash occurs in humid conditions

when perspiration cannot evaporate from the skin. People who wear protective clothing may be at risk for heat rash if their clothes prevent air circulation. To prevent heat rash, keep skin dry and clean and wear loose-fitting clothing.

Heat cramps usually indicate the onset of heat exhaustion has begun. Treat the heat exhaustion victim quickly until signs and symptoms disappear. Move victims to a cool place, give them cool fluids, gently massage affected muscles, apply cool, moist towels

or cloths to foreheads and affected areas. Get medical attention for victims if the signs and symptoms don’t subside.

The lack of fluids and prolonged exposure to heat, humid weather and increased activity can cause heat exhaustion. Signs include weakness and fatigue, pale clammy skin, profuse sweating, muscle spasms, low to normal body temperature, nausea and possibly vomiting. The best treatment for heat exhaustion is prevention – drink lots of water.

Heat stroke is a true medical

emergency, which can occur suddenly and requires immediate medical attention. The signs should be easy to recognize. Among them are loss of consciousness or mental confusion, hot dry skin, high body temperature and a rapid heart rate. First aid includes cooling the victim by removing clothing, applying cool damp compresses or spraying them with water. Cool his or her face by airing it with a fan or newspaper, etcetera.

Tips on how to battle heat-related illnesses are listed below:

■ An essential part of preventing these illnesses is fluid replacement. Thirst is not the only indicator of the need for fluids. If you’re exposed to sunlight outdoors, your body

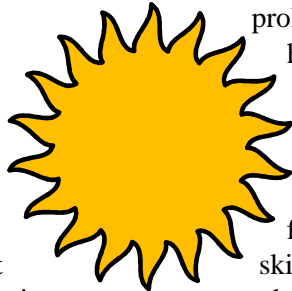
needs cool, nonalcoholic, noncaffeinated, noncarbonated liquids like water and sports drinks.

Sports drinks are concentrated and absorb slowly into your system; dilute them with an equal amount of water. Urine color is also an indicator of hydration; if your urine is dark yellow, your body needs fluids.

■ A balanced diet is a great way to prevent heat-related disorders. Eating light foods like fruits and vegetables will help combat the heat.

■ Lifestyle, which includes plenty of sleep and routine exercise, can help your body absorb the shock of the heat.

■ Take it easy in the heat at first. Then, when your body gets used to it, do a little more.



Question of the week
If the Chief of Staff were in your office and asked what can be done to improve retention, what would you say?



2nd Lt. Rafael Garza
47th Operations Support Squadron
“Make everybody feel like a part of the team. This is not a pilot force – this is the Air Force.”



Tech. Sgt. Robert Ochs
47th Operations Support Squadron
“Give incentives for the jobs held, not for rank. Make pay parallel to what outside professionals are paid.”



Capt. Aaron Kerkman
87th Flying Training Squadron
“The principle surrounding the phrase, ‘Timing is everything,’ is that it doesn’t matter how well you do your job – what does matter is where you are, who you know and what positions need to be filled.”



Airman Kenneth Angeles
47th Mission Support Squadron
“When airmen arrive at their first duty station, don’t bombard them with full loads of work. They are first term airmen, still adapting to the military environment. Increase their responsibility gradually.”



1st Lt. Christopher Blanchette
47th Civil Engineer Squadron
“Allow us to invest in the Thrift Savings Plan.”



Airman 1st Class Mark Johnson
Base Fire Department
“Change the duty hours we work, and compensate us for the holidays we miss.”



From the Blotter

(From June 4-10)



- An individual backed out of his driveway and struck a parked vehicle resulting in damage to the right rear taillight and several minor scratches to the right side of the bumper.
 - A civilian reported his vehicle was hit while parked on base. The damage consisted of a shattered taillight, dented left rear bumper and chipped paint.
 - An individual reported unknown persons scratched her privately owned vehicle while parked at her residence.
 - An unannounced alarm activation through the Sonics Alarm panel was received from the base commissary. It was determined a power fluctuation caused the alarm to go off.
 - A military member reported \$140 dollars in mixed bills was missing from their snack bar fund.
 - Del Rio police officers reported a military member stationed at Randolph AFB, Texas was arrested at the point of entry for public intoxication. The individual was released to his first sergeant.
- Tip of the week:** *There have been an increase in the number of stray dogs retrieved by security forces. Base residents are reminded to keep their animals restrained. Remember you are responsible if your dog injures some or causes an accident.*

Top dog!

Security forces K-9 team wins at police games

By Senior Airman Mike Hammond
Public affairs

A staff sergeant and a military working dog assigned to the 47th Security Forces Squadron here garnered two medals in the K-9 competition at the Texas Police Olympics in Hutto, Texas June 7-9.

Staff Sgt. Bunje Adams, military working dog handler, and Kelly, a 3-year-old German Shepherd, took home the gold medal in the area search competition, and the bronze in the box search.



Adams and Kelly proudly display the gold and bronze medals they won in the area search and box search, respectively, at the Texas Police Olympics. Adams trained for 11 weeks to be Kelly's handler.

In the area search, competitors are taken to a vehicle storage lot with a "perpetrator" hiding in one of the many vehicles. The handlers and dogs enter the area with caution – as they would in a real situation – and the dogs attempt to sniff out the individual. Of all the competitors, only Kelly and Adams were able to actually locate the perpetrator.

In the box search, six boxes are arranged in a pyramid. One box contains a perpetrator, and the dogs are turned loose to find that box. The dog finding the correct box in the least amount of time wins – and Kelly had the third best time.

Adams and Kelly were the only military team in the competition, which drew representatives from 13 law enforcement departments around the state. Because it was a primarily civilian competition, the



Kelly bursts through the end of a tunnel in the ground at the obstacle course. After initial training at Lackland, military working dogs must continually have their training reinforced at the base they serve.



Photos by Senior Airman Mike Hammond

Kelly displays her method of enforcement, as Adams (thankfully) holds her back. pair did some added training in the weeks leading up to the Olympics. Staff Sgt. Mark Hogan, Laughlin military working dog trainer, put together a few extra pieces of equipment and coached Adams and Kelly. Hogan said attending competitions like the Texas Police Olympics is a nice change of pace from everyday duties. "The good thing about us going to these competitions is that we get to see what our civilian counterparts are doing, plus enjoy some camaraderie with fellow law enforcement professionals," said Hogan.

Kelly, who arrived at Laughlin in March 1999, and Adams – a seven-year Air Force veteran who became a dog handler three months prior to Kelly's arrival here – have seen plenty of action in real-world scenarios since being paired up. From April to July 1999, the pair conducted building and vehicle searches at Ali Al Salem Air Base, Kuwait. In November, they were in Seattle supporting the U.S. Secret Service during the heavily protested World Trade Organization Conference there. In January of this



Kelly clears one of several hurdles on her way around the training obstacle course.

year, Adams and Kelly helped locate an elderly woman suffering from Alzheimer's disease, who had been missing from her home. The pair has also augmented the Secret Service in protecting the president and the vice president several times from February through May of this year.

The performance of Adams and Kelly, whether in competition or in real-world scenarios, is a positive indication to their new commander. "This fine showing is a tribute to the Air Force K-9 program as a whole – as well as to the expertise of Staff Sgt. Adams and Kelly," said Maj. Joel C. Dickinson, 47 SFS commander. "I also think these competitions are a fine way for us to interact with other agencies and find out their tactics, training and procedures."

Dining Out committee seeks the opinions of enlisted spouses to determine if event theme should be combat or formal

The Enlisted Dining Out is organized by enlisted members and is an occasion where ceremony, tradition and good fellowship play an important role. Unlike a Dining In, a Dining Out encourages nonmilitary spouses, friends and civilians guests to attend. The event originates back to the days of the Army Air Corps when General Henry H. "Hap" Arnold held his famous Wingdings.

There are two things we should consider while planning the theme for this year's Enlisted Dining Out:

- This year marks the 50th anniversary of the Korean War's beginning;
- Our guest speaker is one of the original Tuskegee Airmen.

How can we tie these two into our theme for the evening? If you have ideas and/or suggestions, we would love to hear from you. If you feel you really don't have ideas, but would still like to participate, we could use your help in putting this event together.

Here's the way you, as spouses, can help right now.

Listed are two possible formats for this year's Dining Out. Take a moment to review them and select the type of event you would prefer to attend. Spouses are encouraged to "advise" their military spouse on which style of event they would most enjoy. I will be polling Laughlin's enlisted corps via e-mail within the next day or so, allowing them to vote electronically. This is the one big event where the spouse has the opportunity – and is encouraged – to be heard. **Make sure your military sponsor gets your vote in.** The option receiving the most votes is the one we'll go with.

Here are the choices:

- Formal Dining Out – Dress for military: mess dress or semiformal. (Semiformal is your service dress uniform with two exceptions – a solid, white, long sleeve shirt with collar instead of the light blue shirt, and no flight cap worn). Dress for guests: formal/evening attire.
- Combat/Warrior Dining Out – Dress for military: battle dress uniform or desert camouflage uniform. Dress for guests: semiformal attire. Be creative – making a part of, or all of your attire from camouflage/



I want you!

By Master Sgt. Timothy Griffin

Enlisted Dining Out committee chairman

Enlisted spouses – we need your help! As the committee plans for this year's Enlisted Dining Out, one of the most important things on our agenda is to find out what type of event you would be interested in attending.

If you've never attended one before, you may wonder what an Enlisted Dining Out is. Before going any further, allow me to explain. It is the one occasion each year where the entire enlisted populace of the base comes together to meet socially at a formal official function.

Getting best buys:

Commissary shoppers to see new deals

The best prices. Period.

Mark your calendar. July 1 is the day you can walk into your commissary and find a variety of popular products marked with “Best Value Item” signs.

Take a look and believe it. If it’s marked Best Value Item, the price beats any other brand on your commissary shelf or any brand at the local grocery store.

The Defense Commissary Agency is making the job of bargain hunting easier for military shoppers and the agency is putting a massive effort into making sure military shoppers get the best prices on products ranging from snacks to paper goods.

“Our customers have earned their benefit and we’re going to make sure they are getting the best prices through this program,” said DeCA director, Air Force Maj. Gen. Robert J. Courter, Jr.

The Best Value Item program begins in commissaries worldwide July 1 with about 100 items in popular sizes. Courter said he expects that number to escalate well into the hundreds.

Commissary customers en-

tering the store July 1 will definitely get the idea that shopping special is afoot. A poster will greet them at the door and flyers explaining the program will be handed out; shelf signs will point the way to best buys. Simply put, a Best Value Item sign means that product has been identified as the best price available on grocery shelves anywhere.

The program responds to customer demand for more price savings. The commissary system is making an effort to encourage single shoppers, military families and retirees to take advantage of this program.

Commissary store directors will be working to make sure shoppers get the best prices without the hassle of having to research prices at the commissary – or at other stores.

DeCA has identified popular products and sizes to kick off the program, but shoppers can ex-

pect to see changes in the products marked as BVIs every time they shop. Frozen and chilled products will be added this summer according to DeCA officials. And today’s BVI might not be tomorrow’s. Product selection and variety will change rapidly in a continuing effort to drive commissary prices down.

The Best Value Item pro-

“Our customers have earned their benefit and we’re going to make sure they are getting the best prices through this program.”

-Maj. Gen. Robert J. Courter, Jr.
DeCA director

gram is not just “another” commissary promotion. As the Best Value Item program evolves, customers will also get more help in spotting BVIs. This fall, flashing shelf lights will point the way to value on commissary shelves.

“Make no mistake,” said Courter, “this is an ongoing program that has the commitment of the entire agency behind it. We want every customer to understand that products marked as ‘Best Value Items’ are indeed the best prices. Period.”



Photo by Staff Sgt. Kevin Gruenwald

Bird's eye view

The Air Force Air Demonstration Squadron, the Thunderbirds, performs precision aerial maneuvers demonstrating the capabilities of Air Force high performance aircraft to people throughout the world. Here is the view from the cockpit of an F-16. The Thunderbirds will perform at Laughlin's airshow 'Air Amistad 2000' Oct. 8.

*Sports-related mouth injuries
can be prevented by using ...*
Mouthguards

By Capt. Paul F.T. Ayson
Laughlin dental clinic

Recent studies have found that one in four individuals in the U.S. will suffer from an oral injury in their lifetime. Many of these injuries may occur from violent sports like football, boxing and hockey. But a high percentage of teeth get knocked out during bike riding, baseball, soccer, volleyball, skateboarding and basketball, as well.

With this in mind, dentists have started to recommend mouth protectors during any type of activity. According to Dr. Jack Winters, DDS, an expert on sports dentistry for the American Dental Association, mouthguards are appropriate for children and adults who are involved in recreational activities like biking, skating, pick-up basketball and any type of organized

sports.

Without wearing a protective mouthguard, damage to the teeth increase by sixty-fold. It is highly recommended that athletes wear a mouthguard during practice and competition in contact and collision sports. The NFL, NHL and all boxing organizations require the use of a mouth protector to prevent injury to the mouth, teeth, lips, cheeks and the tongue. In addition, a mouthguard can cushion blows that might cause concussions or jaw fractures. Remember, the presence of a mouthguard does not guarantee a tooth will not be lost, but it greatly decreases the likelihood of tooth loss in sports injuries.

There are three different types of mouthguards. Each one has its pros and cons.

■ Stock mouth protector: this



Photos courtesy of the Laughlin dental clinic

A dental laboratory technician applies the plaster mold to a cast turner, which removes excess stone and gives the mold shape.

type is readily available in sporting goods stores. After purchasing it, it's ready to be placed in the mouth. The drawback with this type is that it can be bulky and can restrict the ability to communicate or breathe.

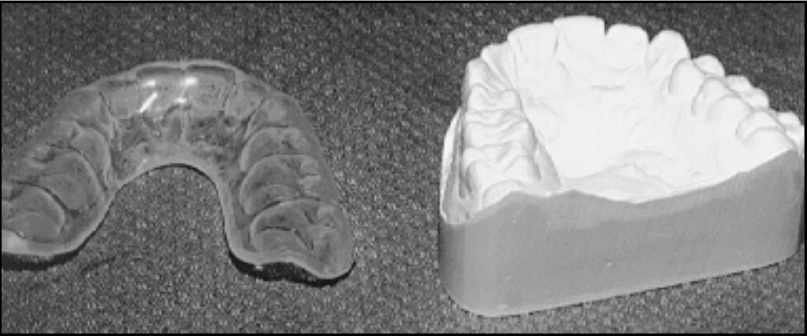
■ Boil and bite: commonly available in athletic stores as well. This type requires the user to place the protector in boiling water to soften it and then place it in the mouth. If you choose to use this, have your dentist mold it (most young athletes do not follow the manufacturer's instructions closely – and end up making an ill-fitting mouthguard).

■ Custom-fitted: According to Dr. Ranalli, the custom fitted type allows for easier communication and breathing. Many people get discouraged when

they hear the prices of the custom-fitted type; however, think about the amount of money it will save if it prevents having a tooth knocked out – or even possibly a jaw fracture. If you're active duty, there is no cost to have a mouthguard made at the base dental clinic. If you're a civilian employee or an active duty dependent, you need to ask your dentist if they provide this type of service.

Remember – a mouth protector is not a nuisance but serves as a preventive piece of equipment in addition to other protective equipment that you have to wear for your particular sport. Whether you're young or old, wearing a mouthguard during practice or competition makes good sporting sense.

To have your custom-fitted mouthguard made, call the dental clinic at 298-6331 for an appointment.



A finished mouthguard next to the plaster mold used in making it.

Laughlin Sports

(Standings current as of Wednesday)

Trap and Skeet

Team	Week 8 score	Total
SVS	105.5	821.5
ADS #1	93	819.5
87 FTS	56	778
ADS #2	72	754.5
84 FTS	47	642
CES	24	457.5

Volleyball

Team	Wins	Losses
84/85 FTS	6	1
OSS	5	1
87 FTS	4	2
CES	4	3
MDG	4	3
LCSAM	2	5
SFS	1	5
CS/SVS/CONS	0	6

** Playoffs begin Tuesday – call the XL Fitness Center at 5326 for times and matchups. Support your team in its quest for the championship!*

Softball

Team	Wins	Losses
CS/SVS/CONS	3	0
LSI	3	0
LCSAM	2	0
CES	3	1
OSS #1	3	1
SFS	2	2
87 FTS	2	2
MDG #2	1	1
OSS #2	1	2
EAST	0	3
MDG #1	0	4
84/85 FTS	0	4

Schedule of games for June 26-30:

Monday
7 p.m. – 84/85 FTS vs OSS #2
8 p.m. – MDG #1 vs EAST
9 p.m. – MDG #2 vs CS/CONS/SVS
Wednesday
7 p.m. – CS/CONS/SVS vs EAST
8 p.m. – CES vs LCSAM
9 p.m. – OSS #1 vs SFS

Golf

Team	Points
Fire Department	54
OSS	51
LSI #1	50
LCSAM	41.5
Services	36
LSI #2	26.5

If you're interested in writing short stories on intramural games for the Border Eagle, call 298-5393.

Spouses Club meeting

The Enlisted and Civilian Spouses Club hosts a 7 p.m. meeting Tuesday at Club Amistad. Officer elections are scheduled to be held at the meeting. If there is a lack of interest, the club will be disbanded.

If you are interested in holding an office or attending the meeting, call Tech. Sgt. Stephen Harding at 5154, or Staff Sgt. Sheri Robinson at 4769.

Family connections

The Family Support Center is creating a new “grapevine” called FAM CONNECT! If you want to stay in the loop and get information on activities for you and your family, then enroll today. If you have e-mail, information on issues for your family, as well as upcoming events in the local area can be sent to your account.

For more information, call 298-5327.

Vacation Bible School

The base chapel hosts a Vacation Bible School Monday through June 30.

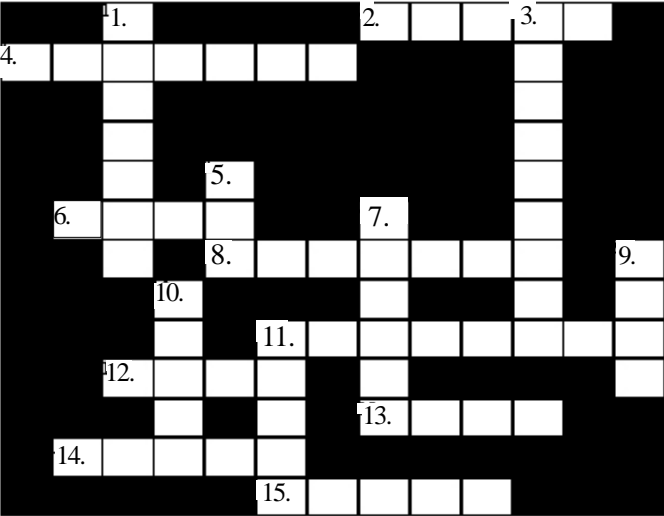
For more information, call the base chapel at 5111.

NCOA/PMEGA drive

A meeting of the Laughlin Noncommissioned Officers Association and the Professional Military Education Graduates Association is scheduled for 11 a.m. July 7 in

IG crossword puzzle

(Answers to appear in next week’s issue)



ACROSS

2. Col. Herb ____ is the 47 FTW/CV.
4. A ____ is a significant deficiency that requires a specific answer to HQ AETC on corrective actions.
6. Annual training required on ROE during armed conflict (abbr.).
8. INFOCON ____ is declared when intelligence assessments and reports indicate a limited attack has occurred.
11. The ____ Control Group (DCG) goes to the site of a disaster which has occurred.
12. Security Awareness Training and Education (abbr.).
13. Self Aif Buddy Care.
14. Col. Skip ____ is the 47 FTW/CC.
15. INFOCON ____ is declared when a heightened threat of a possible information system attack exists.

DOWN

1. A comprehensive defense posture and response based on the status of information systems, military operations and intelligence assessments of adversary capabilities and intent is called ____.
3. Grade given to indicate performance or operation exceeds mission requirements.
5. Unit Control Center (UCC).
7. The ____ Action Team is convened at the direction of the Wing CC in response to disaster and meets in the Command Post Crisis Action Rm.
9. Major Accident Response Exercise (abbr.).
10. Indications and warnings indicate the targeting of a specific system, location, unit or operation.
11. INFOCON ____ is declared when a successful information system attack is detected which affects DoD systems.

the Airman Leadership School/Enlisted Heritage Building. This meeting is open to all active duty, Reserve, Guard and retired personnel. Don’t miss this opportunity to get involved with career-enhancing professional organizations. Come and see the dynamic things we’re doing to help the Laughlin and Del Rio communities.

For more information, call Tech. Sgt. Chris Clauser at 5441.

Change of command

The change of command ceremony for the 47th Medical Support Squadron is scheduled for July 7 at 10 a.m. at Club Amistad. Maj. Bruce A. Allen relinquishes command to Lt. Col. Edward Y. Walker, III.

Enlisted promotion ceremony

An Enlisted Promotion Ceremony is scheduled for 3:30 p.m. June 30 at Club Amistad.

For more information, call Master Sgt. Sandra Harper at 5667.

Golf tournament

The Rattler Booster Club hosts its second “Golf Extravaganza” July 15 at 8 a.m. Profits will go to help support Operation Jingle and the Del Rio Teen Center. Sign up forms are currently available at Leaning Pine Golf Course and the XL Fitness Center.

For more information, call Staff Sgt. Michael Morgan at 4344 or Staff Sgt. Thomas Hensley at 5105.

Selection board

The next Undergraduate Flying Training selection board will convene at the Air Force Personnel Center Oct. 24. Applications must be sent to AFPC by Sept. 8.

For more information, call 5078.

PMC Selection

47th Medical Group Tricare Prime patients have until August 1 to change their PCM.

For more information on changing your PCM, call 298-6317, 6304 or call Master Sgt. Mark Bowersox at 298-6302.

Looking to the ORI

(By Lt. Col. Barbara Stewart, 47 FTW inspector general)
70-day checklist

- Commanders: Look over your leave program to ensure no repeat write-ups from the last ORI.
- Do your phones/computers/computer disks have the proper labels on them.
- Do you have historical items on display in your unit? If you do, have you gotten them approved through the history office?



Photo by Senior Airman Michael Hammond

Exercise, exercise, exercise!

Airman 1st Class Steve Passons, 47th Security Forces Squadron entry controller, checks an ID of a motorist entering the installation during the implementation of exercise Threatcon Bravo Tuesday.

Assumption of command

Maj. Michelle Miller assumes command of the 47th Contracting Squadron at an 8 a.m. ceremony July 7 at Ribas-Dominicci Circle. All are invited to attend. In the event of rain, the ceremony will be moved to the XL Fitness Center gymnasium.

For more information, call 5116.

American Legion meeting

The Del Rio/Laughlin American Legion Post #298 hosts its regular meeting Wednesday at 7:30 p.m. at “The Barn” across from Laughlin’s main gate. The drawing for the flagpole fundraiser will be held during the meeting. Discussion about July 4 activities will be a key topic. Anyone interested in veteran and military affairs and benefits is invited to attend.

If you are currently active duty and on honorable status, you are eligible to join! Come join us! For more information, call 298-2097 or log-on to <http://www.delrio.com/~mkachel/al/index.htm>.

Safety Stats

Subject:	FY 00	FY 99	FY 98
On Duty	4	5	11
Off Duty	3	12	7
Traffic	0	2	4
Spts & Rec	2	6	3
Fatalities	0	0	2

(Current as of June 20, 2000)